

# CHINA

THE

# MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXIII. No. 4276. 號五十月三年七十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1877.

日一初月二年丑丁

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

## AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill, GORDON & GORGE, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, HENRY & CO., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DRAGON & CO., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTON, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

CHINA.—SWATOW, QUENCH & CAMPBELL, Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & CO., Foochow, HEDGES & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Macao, C. BENTHORN & CO., Macao, L. A. DA GRACA.

## Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars. RESERVE FUND, 500,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS, Chairman—H. HOPKINS, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.

A. ANDRE, Esq. | M. MOYER, Esq. E. R. BENTHORN, Esq. | S. W. POMEROY, Esq. BOD. W. KENWICK, Esq. | ED. TOBIN, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER, Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq., Manager.

Shanghai, EWEN CAMBRON, Esq.

London BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

## HONGKONG.

### INTEREST ALLOWED

ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:—

For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.

" 6 " 4 per cent. "

" 12 " 5 per cent. "

Local Bills Discounted.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East. Hongkong, February 15, 1876.

## Notices of Firms.

### NOTICE.

M. R. FERDINAND NISSEN has been compelled to retire from our Firm in consequence of failing health, and his interest and responsibility ceased on the 31st December last.

Mr. NICOLAS AUGUST SIEBS has been authorised to sign for us by Procurator.

We have this day reopened a branch of our Firm at Canton.

SIEMSEN & CO.

Hongkong, January 1, 1877. ap2

### NOTICE.

WE have been appointed AGENTS for the AMERICAN SHIPMASTERS' ASSOCIATION.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO. Hongkong, February 2, 1877. ap2

### VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

ON and after the 16th day of November, 1876, and until further notice, the BUSINESS of the above-named DISPENSARY will be carried on by the Under-signed.

WM. CRUCKSHANK,

Manager.

Hongkong, November 21, 1876.

### NOTICE.

THE Partnership hitherto existing between the Under-signed under the name of MESTERN & HULSE has this day been dissolved by lapse of time, and the Signature of the Firm will henceforth be used for the Liquidation only.

C. J. MESTERN,

W. HULSE.

Canton, December 31, 1876. ap2

### Intimations.

W. BALL,

CHINA DISPENSARY.

IMPORTER OF DRUGS, CHEMICALS, DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES, TOILET REQUISITES, PATENT MEDICINES AND PERFUMES.

Prescriptions Dispensed with Carefulness and Prompt Attention.

PRAYA WEST, HONGKONG,

Near the Canton Steamer Wharf. Hongkong, July 13, 1876.

### Intimations.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

COMMENCING on FRIDAY Next, the 16th Instant, the Steamer POWAN will Run as a Night Boat between HONGKONG and CANTON, leaving Hongkong on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5.30 p.m., and Canton on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, at 5.00 p.m.

By Order,

P. A. DA COSTA,

Secretary.

Hongkong, March 14, 1877.

### HONGKONG.

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO., WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS, 38, Queen's Road, NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHRONOMETERS, &c., &c., &c., Carefully Repaired, Cleaned and accurately rated under guarantee.

All Repairs in the above line done at reasonable rates and with despatch.

Hongkong, May 1, 1876.

### NOTICE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. have been Appointed SOLE AGENTS for China and Japan, for JOSEPH STARKEY, LONDON, Manufacturer of GOLD and SILVER LACES, Embroidery, &c., and Military and Naval Appointments of every Description.

A Stock of these Goods will be kept on hand, for the Regiments stationed here, as well as for the ENGLISH and AMERICAN NAVIES.

Hongkong, March 14, 1877. ap4

### NOTICE.

LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE CO.

THE BUSINESS of this COMPANY has This Day been Transferred to THE MARINE INSURANCE CO., of 20, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.

By Order of the Proprietors,

WILLIAM HUNT,

Secretary.

137, Leadenhall Street, LONDON, 1st January, 1877.

### ESTABLISHED 1836.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000 STERLING. RESERVE FUND, £ 340,000

WITH Reference to the foregoing Advertisement THE MARINE INSURANCE CO. has This Day taken over the BUSINESS of the LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT CO., and has Appointed Mr A. MOYER as its AGENT in HONGKONG.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

ROBERT J. LODGE,

Manager.

Hongkong, February 16, 1877. ap17

### NOTICE.

A. MOYER, Agent of the Marine Insurance Co. o

London.

Hongkong, February 16, 1877. ap17

### ERNEST WASSELL & CO., PHOTOGRAPHERS.

I HAVE This Day established myself as PHOTOGRAPHER at the Corner of Wyndham and Wellington Streets, at the Fordingately occupied by the HONGKONG PHOTOGRAPHIC CO., under the above Style.

ERNEST WASSELL,

Hongkong, March 3, 1877. ap1

### MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, PENANG.

THE Municipal Commissioners of Penang are desirous of receiving DESIGNS for a TOWN-HALL. This Building is to be erected on the ground on the east side of the Esplanade situated between the latter and Duke Street, and its cost is not to exceed \$30,000.

The Commissioners offer a PREMIUM of \$400 for the best and most suitable Design with Specifications; and competitors have the option of forwarding Tenders for carrying out the work.

The Designs, accompanied with all documents, are to be sent to the Municipal Office, Penang, on or before the 1st of March next.

For further information apply to the Secretary to the Municipal Commissioners at Penang.

D. C. FREESGRAVE,

Municipal Secretary, Penang, Municipal Office, The 21st September, 1877.

### Intimations.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & CO.

ARE NOW LANDING AN INVOICE OF

ROUYER GUILLET & CO.'S CELEBRATED BRANDY.

This BRANDY is well known in England, the Colonies, and India.

The Firm possess Six Vineyards and Six Distilleries, and are amongst the largest shippers

from Charente.

Qualities One \*, Two \*\*, Three \*\*\*, and Four \*\*\*\*, in Cases of One Dozen Quarts.

Also,

POMMERY & GRENO'S

"Extra Sec." CHAMPAGNE,

in Quarts and Pints,

As supplied to the principal London Clubs.

Hongkong, January 5, 1877. [ap5]

THE MEDICAL HALL, 37, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

TH. KOFFER, Proprietor.

Hongkong, April 28, 1876. ap23

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE DIVIDEND declared for the Half-year ending on 30th December last, at the rate of ONE POUND STERLING (21) per Share of \$125, is PAYABLE on and after THURSDAY, the 16th Instant, at the Offices of the Corporation, where Shareholders are requested to apply for Warrants.

By Order of the Court of Directors,

THOMAS JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, February 15, 1877. [ap14]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

LAMMERT, ATKINSON & CO. have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

THURSDAY,

the 16th March, 1877, at 2 o'clock p.m.,

Framed Engravings, Cash Boxes, Ivory and Bone Handled Table and Dessert Knives, Electro-plated Spoons and Forks, Corkscrews, Dolls, Silk Umbrellas.

Also,

Paint and Scrubbing Brushes.

6 Fire-proof Iron Safes.

10 casks Soda.

White Zinc and Black Paint,

&c., &c., &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars, weighed at 7.17.

The Lot or Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at Purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.

Hongkong, March 14, 1877. [mc16]

NOTICE.

NEITHER Captain FORBES nor the

AGENTS or OWNERS of the American Barque "GARIBOLDI" will be

RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS contracted by the Crew.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, February 28, 1877.

ACTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION

of

HANDSOME EUROPEAN-MADE

## For Sale.

SAYLE & Co.  
GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

IN Order to make Room for SPRING GOODS.

On and after MONDAY, February 6th, We shall offer the Remainder of Our WINTER STOCK at an immense reduction.

DRESS GOODS at 15 cents per yard.  
DRESS GOODS at 20 cents per yard.  
DRESS GOODS at 25 cents per yard.  
DRESS GOODS at 30 cents per yard.  
DRESS GOODS at 35 cents per yard.

FANCY SILKS! We offer about 5,000 yards at 35 cents per yard, (these are more or less soiled); original price \$1.50 and \$2.00 per yard.

JAPANESE SILKS! Reduced to 40 cents per yard.

WOOL SHAWLS, MANTLES and JACKETS, Marked very Cheap.

LADIES', BOYS' and GIRLS' FELT HATS, at Half Price.

FANCY WOOL GOODS, at less than Half Price.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO HOSE, Greatly reduced.

100 dozen CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO SOCKS, all Sizes, at less than Half Price.

Several thousand Yards of VARIOUS REMANTS. Comprising: FLANNELS, CALICOES, PRINTS, MUSLINS, STUFF GOODS and Other Useful GOODS, are Marked at Prices, which must effect immediate Sale.

In order to prevent disappointment, We beg to inform Our Customers and the Public that this Extraordinary, and Unprecedented Sale must close on February 28th.

SAYLE & Co.,  
VICTORIA EXCHANGE,  
Queen's Road & Stanley Street.

## Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

STAR OF CHINA, British ship, Captain E. B. Blaker.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.

NEHEMIAH GIBSON, American ship, Captain D. Bradford.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

BONITO, German barque, Captain J. F. Wessenberg.—Siemens & Co.

ALDEN BESS, American barque, Captain S. Noyes.—Rosario & Co.

TYRURNA, British ship, Captain Robt. Goldie.—Meyer & Co.

FORZORA, German 8-m. schooner, Capt. G. Schweer.—Molchers & Co.

WANDERING MINSTREL, British barque, Captain Wm. Sivewright.—Siemens & Co.

MYSTIC BELLE, American ship, Captain David Plumer.—Siemens & Co.

ORANGE GROVE, British barque, Captain A. Longmuir.—Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.

ROGINA, American 3-m. schooner, Capt. C. W. Hansen.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

TULLOCHGORUM, British schooner, Capt. S. Mason.—Chinese.

PANOLA, American 8-m. schooner, Capt. H. W. Lumb.—Landstein & Co.

## To-day's Advertisements.

## FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship "GLENLYON".

Captain WALLACE, will leave as above TO-MORROW, the 16th Instant, at 10 a.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

mc16

## FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship "AMOY".

G. H. DREWES, Master, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 16th inst., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

mc16

## FOR MANILA.

The Departure of the S. S. "ESMERALDA".

is Postponed until 3 p.m.

TO-MORROW, the 16th instant.

A. MAG. HEATON,

Agent.

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

mc16

## NOTICE.

FROM This Date and until further notice, Mr ADAM LIND will take charge of the COMPANY'S BUSINESS at this Port.

By Order of the Managing Directors,

A. MOLVER,

Superintendent.

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

mc16

## NOTICE.

MR. FRANCISCO M. GONNALES is authorized to sign our Firm per Procuracion.

ROZARIO & Co.

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

mc22

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

CONSIGNERS of the following Cargo are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Underwriters for counter signature, and take immediate delivery. This Cargo has been landed and stored at their risk and expense.

No Fico Insurance has been effected.

H. DU POUEY,

Agent.

Ex Tigr. March 6th, 1877.  
U. S. S. Admetus. . . . 2 cases nailcutting tools.

Ex Pei-Ho, March 7th, 1877.

Cowles. . . . 2 cases Effects.

Ex On Overbeck, F. No. 18, 1 case Effects.

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

mc22

## To-day's Advertisements.

## BRITISH BARQUE PALESTINE, FROM LONDON.

CONSIGNERS of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Under-signed for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

MELCHERS & Co.,

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

mc18

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS.

March 15, Benaré, British steamer, 1110, J. Potter, Arrived March 14, Ballast.—Giza, LIVINGSTON & CO.

March 15, Norna, British steamer, 606, A. G. Walker, Swatow March 14, General.—Kwok Acheong.

March 15, Amoy, British steamer, from Canton.

March 15, Palestine, British barque, 608, Serovert, London Sept. 18, General.—MELCHERS & CO.

March 15, St. Joseph, French barque, 289, Ob. Dumont, Bangkok Feb. 7, General.—C. R. LOWWIT & CO.

March 15, Flintshire, British steamer, 1243, Th. Anna, Saigon March 9, Rice and General.—CHINESE.

March 15, Hooching, Chinese steamer, 840, R. Petersen, Singapore March 6, General.—C. M. S. N. CO.

DEPARTURES.

Mar. 15, Douglas, for Coast Porta.

15, Pendo, for Bangkok.

15, H. M. S. Audacious, for Amoy and Nagasaki.

15, H. M. S. Vigilant, for Amoy and Nagasaki.

15, H. M. S. Midge, for Shanghai.

15, Travancore, for Europe, &c.

CLEARED.

Glenlyon, for Shanghai.

Western Bell, for Manila.

Amoy, for Shanghai.

Wandering Minstrel, for Takow.

Lodia, for Chefoo.

Zamboanga, for Saigon.

Syringa, for Takow.

Union, for Ilo Ilo.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Douglas, from Saigon, 10 Chinese.

Per Hooching, from Singapore, 308 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Douglas, for Swatow, Mr. W. H. Taylor.

For Amoy, Mr. and Mrs. Craig, Messrs. Furlonger, Carter, Cockrell, and McPherson.

For Foochow, Mr. and Mrs. Power, Sub-Lieut. H. A. Denison, Messrs. R. H. Graves, H. A. Graves, Jardine, Matheson, G. Dastling, Sheppard, and Tenant.

For Coast Porta, Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan, Lt. Creagh, R. N.—From Shanghai: for Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. Lines, Infant and small; Messrs. Li and servant, F. A. Morgan, Lt. Creagh, R. N.—From Yokohama: for Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. John Simpson, Mr. Shand and servant, and Mrs. Schaub; for Venice, Mr. F. Lacy.

Per Pendo, for Bangkok, 1, European and 20 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per Amoy, for Shanghai, 160 Chinese.

Per Zamboanga, for Saigon, 100 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer Flintshire reports:

Had strong N.E. winds and heavy sea throughout the passage.

The Chinese steamer Hooching reports:

First part moderate monsoon and fine weather, latter part strong monsoon and rain squalls. On the 10th, off Japan Point, passed French steamer François I. bound Southward; same day, off Davao Head, S. S. Rajanatiianah, bound South.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS will close:—

For SHANGHAI.—

Per GLENLYON, at 9.30 a.m. To-morrow, the 16th inst.

Per AMOY, at 11.30 a.m. To-morrow, the 16th inst.

Per LIOU-LIO.—

Per Schooner UNION, at 11.30 a.m., on Friday, the 16th inst.

For SAIGON.—

Per MECCA, at 2.30 p.m., on Friday, the 16th inst.

For MANILA.—

Per ESMERALDA, at 2.30 p.m. To-morrow, the 16th inst., instead of as previously notified.

For SWATOW, AMOY, TAIWANFOO, AND TAMSUI.—

Per HALLOONG, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 17th inst.

For SINGAPORE, PENANG & CAI-UTTA.—

Per FENWICK, at 2.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 20th inst.

Per ARRATOON AFCAH, at 2.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 20th inst.

MAILS by the UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet ALASKA will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 20th instant, with Mails for Japan, San Francisco, the United States, and London, which will be closed as follows:—

1 p.m. Registry of Letters ceases.

2.30 p.m. Post-Office closes.

2.30 p.m. Correspondence for Japan by the United States only may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 12 cents extra Postage until

2.50 p.m. when the Mail is finally closed.

Correspondence must be specially directed for this route, and if not fully prepaid will be sent by British Packet.

General Post Office;

Hongkong, March 15, 1877.

## POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS will close:—

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.—

The French Contract Packet ANDYR will be despatched from Hongkong on THURSDAY, the 22nd Inst., with Mails to and through the United Kingdom and Europe, via Marseilles; to Saigon, Singapore, Batavia, Galle, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji, Aden, Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius, Suez, and Alexandria. This is the best opportunity for forwarding Correspondence to E. Africa, the Cape, St. Helena, and Ascension.

Challenger which was also lost on a voyage from Australia with a similar cargo. Both these shipwrecked crews were assisted in a brotherly manner by the parish priest, and Don Vicente Molleda. It appears that from Manila a vessel is to start to preserve what can be saved from the ship, and to take on board the crew at Laoaong.—*Correio*, 30th Jan.

Sooloo 23rd January, 1877.—For several days there has been lying at anchor in Sooloo roadstead the British vessel *British* from Singapore with goods, some of which have been sold here. From her Captain, we hear that a Singapore firm is preparing to establish, with six steamers, a line, which, touching at various places in Sooloo and Sooloo, will have Zamboanga or Pollock as final port of call, trade with Mindanao being about to be developed thereby. Should this plan be realised goods will be brought with some profit to us who live in these low latitudes, and we may be advantaged in some measure in the way of communication with Singapore and other places. The *British* left for Borneo on the 14th. The new town of Sooloo is extending westerly. According to the plan drawn by the commandant of the engineers the streets are to be ten or twelve metres broad, (metre 3.28 English ft.) the isolated houses being substituted by that of square blocks with two or three holdings to which much land has been attached to make them roomy and comfortable. The whole town is increasing in size although building works are not pushed forward with the necessary quickness owing to want of materials and above all of workmen who are remarkably few. Relations with the Moros of the interior of this island and those of the remainder of the Archipelago are improving. As a proof of this the gunboats *Mindanao* and *Manilao* have been well received by them during a cruise from the 11th to the 12th instant.—*Straits Times*.

## Bangkok.

(Correspondent of *Straits Times*.)

Feb. 15, 1877.

This out-of-the-way corner of the East seldom gets much notice in your paper, which I suppose is owing to the want of anything of general importance interesting to the European world; nevertheless a few items of domestic news may not be out of place in some unoccupied column, and may be read by some of your readers, who like to know what their neighbours are doing. Since the commencement of the New Year we have had the American Admiral visiting us with his ships, the *Tennessee* and the *Admiral*. The Admiral and his officers did all in their power to show the Siamese how much they regretted and condemned the conduct of their late Consul at this port, and the Siamese, in return, shewed the Admiral the most unbounded hospitality. Not only the Siamese, but the private residents of all nations seemed to vie with each other in doing hon. to the American representative. The invitations which were showered upon the Admiral and his wife were all accepted in the most cordial manner, and what with breakfasting with one host, a garden party with another, and a ball or social evening party at another place, and this programme carried out for several consecutive days, they must have really had hard work.

The present American Consul is doing the usual amount of sweeping expected from new brooms, and has created a good first impression amongst his own people, who a short time ago could hardly make sure of their lives or liberty. The Siamese, having their recent experiences fresh in their memories, do not perhaps feel inclined to fall in love at first sight, but they are evidently willing to believe that the present representative of the United States wishes to act honestly. It is reported here that the late American Consul is wanted in the United States, but that at present he cannot be found. The officers of the American ships gave a return party and ball to the Siamese and foreign residents prior to their departure, and the King went some distance to sea in order to witness the gun and torpedo practice on board the *Tennessee*. The whole visit was a success from beginning to end, and Admiral Reynolds deserves the thanks of his countrymen in the East for having had the tact and diplomacy to restore the prestige of his nation not only with the Siamese, but with the representatives of Western nations in the East.

"It never rains but it pours." No sooner had the Americans left Bangkok than we were visited by two Austrian noblemen, one of whom is a nephew of the Emperor of Austria, and we get hints of still greater personages who will probably visit Siam during the course of their "globe-trotting" excursions. It only remains for Mr. T. Cook to get up an excursion party to Siam, Cambodia, Chonburi, and Burma, and we shall shake a fine morning to find ourselves famous. I hear that Mr. President Grant is about to visit the East, and that he is to be invited to come here. The Austrian Prince has been nobly entertained, and from the day of his arrival he has had a splendid mansion placed at his disposal, with one of the king's brothers for his host. The Prince has made himself quite a favorite with the Siamese, and has met with a reception much warmer than as a stranger, he could have anticipated.

To turn from the festive to the practical, I remark that the rice prospects in Siam have not been so bright for many seasons as they are at present. One would think that as the rice mills in Bangkok are only employed about half their time, there could not be room for more, but, nevertheless, there are two more in course of erection, and another two are ordered. Unless the country is opened out, and more ground placed under cultivation (as a private individual) do not see how the mills can be worked at a profit. However let us hope that the enterprising capitalist will meet with success, and that they may be the means of developing the country's resources, although it is depressing to work for glory only. One spirited Siamese nobleman has gone largely for a coffee plantation, and most favorable accounts have been received from Europe respecting the quality of his produce. A European has turned his attention to the improvement of the indigo grown here, and after some years of difficulty, begins to see his way clear to get his money back. One of the European Consuls has devoted time and energy to the development of tobacco, and his manufactured cheroots are perfect Havanas in every respect save one, and that one is, that they have not the aroma of Havanas cigars. The boxes, labels, and the manner in which they are got up reflect great credit on the proprietor. A more useful and

practical improvement has been made by an Englishman who has introduced machinery for making bricks, tiles, drainage pipes etc. This, it is hoped, will have an ultimate success, although, like all other innovations, it is beset with difficulties at its commencement.

Straws serve to show which way the current runs, and it may not be out of place to remark that the Siamese use European cards for calling or visiting, and for new year congratulations, and that their breakfasts, luncheons and dinners, are all served in European style, with European superintendence. In a few months, Bangkok will be provided with ice at a less cost (to the promoter) say that it is supplied in Singapore.

A Fancy Dress-Ball to which no ladies are invited has for some time formed a part of the Royal Family's new year's festivities, and this custom is carried out with the utmost strictness as to detail of costume. Amidst the whole of these re-formations, the young King moves as the guiding power, now advancing the most liberal views for the benefit of his country, and again restraining the impetuosity of those who would copy the vagaries and monstrosities of the Japanese in their ardour for the progress of civilization.

The King is one of the hardest working men in the country, and has his regular office hours the same as any clerk in a Bank.

He has recently ordered a Floating

Fire Engine from England to protect his people and the shipping in the Port from the ravages which are continually made by this element, consequent on the house being constructed entirely of wood and thatch.

In this respect Bangkok will be ahead of Singapore in providing means of assistance in case of fire breaking out on board any ship in the river. This fire engine has been imported by Messrs. Ramsay & Co. of this city, who have had it built to their order to meet the special requirements of the "Eastern Venice" as Bangkok has been poetically described.

The Fire boat is a novelty in engineering. It is only 32 feet long with a draught of 8 inches, when loaded with coals, men and every apparatus.

It is worked or propelled from a paddle situated in the stern of the boat, and can discharge 500 gallons of water per minute to a height of 100 feet, and at a distance of 500 yards from the fire. In the space of half an hour this little boat would be able to deluge any ordinary ship or steamer and sink it effectually.

The New Public Offices, which are in course of construction under the superintendence of Mr. Chinnia, an architect well-known in Singapore, will be a noble pile of buildings who complete it. It is unfortunate that they are situated in a place where they will be unnoticed by visitors to Bangkok. They are enclosed within the useless and cumbersome walls of the Palace in accordance with Siamese superstition.

These walls, in the event of an outbreak, would not only assist the assaulting parties, but would prove a trap from which there would be no escape, for those who were unfortunately within.

The Foreign Minister of Siam has built

a handsome mansion in Europe style on the river Bank, which is an ornament to the city and reflects great credit on the architect, as well as on the nobleman to whom it belongs.

The Ex-Regent and many others possess fine houses, but they are built in out-of-the-way creeks and canals and are seldom seen by any visitor to Bangkok.

The King has also made some very valuable additions to his Museum which is thrown freely open to every one. It is superintended by Mr. Alabaster, whose untiring energy in assisting the Siamese in their efforts at improvement, and his never failing courtesy to strangers who visit the Palace are well known to all.

Mr. Alabaster is at present engaged in surveying portions of the Eastern coast of Siam, and constructing a reliable chart, as some dangerous rocks have been reported which are not clearly marked on any existing chart.

The lighthouses at the Bar is being regularly and efficiently maintained, and has proved itself a most invaluable boon to ships arriving either by day or night.

It is expected that Bangkok will be in

telegraphic communication with the rest of the world within twelve months, as the final survey will be completed by the end of April.—*Straits Times*.

## A RAMBLE THROUGH KIUKIANG.

(Shanghai Courier.)

It being near New Year, the Chinese were busy settling their accounts, busily making purchases and busily doing a thousand other things in connection with the one great yearly event in the life of a Chinaman. Temporary stalls were erected on both sides of the street for the sale of commodities of all kinds, mostly however of a cheap sort. Fathers of families were bargaining for caps of various colours and get up, for their young hopeful who stood round, eagerly admiring the self-same caps and taking a lesson in the art of bargaining from their paternal relatives, who in the gravest possible manner were cheapening their prospective purchases. Other stalls had pictures of men and animals represented in impossible positions and painted in all the colours of the rainbow. The pictures of the men appear to have been painted to express the different passions; some with the benevolent countenance, others of villainy, &c. according to a foreigner's delineation of such characteristics. One of the pictures that we are in mind of is a cartoon which appeared in *Fun* a short time since, where Turkey as a fort was being threatened by Russia. We passed on and heard a howling beggar a hooting cash in front of the court of a cap. These beggars tame asps, and coiling a few of them round their filthy bodies, enter the different shops and place the snakes on the counter. Of course the shopkeepers quickly give them what they want in order to get rid of such unwholesome visitors. Many of the beggars belong to societies having recognized chiefs. We know of one instance where the "King of the beggars" at Shanghai, when offered fifty cash, returned them with an air of injured dignity saying that he took nothing under one hundred cash! This was an old man with white hair and could be seen daily perambulating the streets. But enough about beggars.

We stopped to look into a fire cracker manufacture. Without crackers, a Chinaman's rejoicing would be very incomplete—"the more the noise, the more the enjoyment"—representing his idea of merriment. Several men were at work, some cutting square pieces of red paper, others rolling them up, some filling them, while a few were putting the finishing touches. All this was done with astonishing rapidity. We have often remarked that when a Chinaman

works for himself, he works quickly, though such is not the case always, when he is employed by some one else. A little further on we walked into a shop where the inmates were making lamps of various sizes, shapes and descriptions round, square, and oblong, some ornamented with letters and others with pictures of persons, animals, fishes, birds and scenes, and composed of various materials, such as oiled paper, common paper, glass and gourd skins. These lamps also form a portion of a Chinaman's idea of festivity, though they are prominently displayed on all public occasions whether of joy or sorrow.

We next saw a cake-shop with all kinds of toothsome good things—from a Chinese stand-point of course—pies and puddings were temptingly displayed, having as an integral component, pieces of savory pork—the Chinaman's delight. Let us further describe what made the reader's mouth water, we retire to observe a butcher's shop. A pig had just been killed and was cleaned in a tub of hot water just outside the shop while a crowd of admiring youngsters looked on and enjoyed the scene. The butcher himself, after wiping his cleaver on his nether garment, presented to serve a customer who had just entered to make a purchase.

We next saw a cake-shop with all kinds

of the "braves," proudly floating o'er the breeze" or drooping listlessly down. The soldiers' hats were of straw and miserable looking tenuements they appeared—men in hovels in fact. We did not feel at all favorably impressed with the place, so went elsewhere. After rambling about a bit we neared the pagoda which is inside the city and near the South Gate. From a distance it looked in good order and repair; on approaching it we found the door to it shut, and on peeping through the bars we discovered that there was no staircase leading to the first floor. We afterwards learnt that ladder is provided by the priests who have charge of the pagoda, and in consideration of a few cash they will descend to lend the aforesaid ladder for the aforesaid purpose.

However, as we did not know this at the time, we had not the opportunity of conferring pecuniary obligation on the shaven headed fraternity, so left the feasts of counting the number of steps, and engraving our names in bold characters, high o'er the heads of other adventurous individuals, who had visited the place before us and left their autograph to be handed down to posterity. All who were admitted, after a hasty glance at the shrouded corpse, paid a visit to the furnace-room, and then returned to the reception-room, and joined in a discussion as to the condition of the body, which the Correspondent thought rather unpleasant.

We strolled on and approached the city, and as we proceeded the mud, beggars, dogs, and pigs increased. Over our heads, across the street, the inmates of the shops on either side, we discovered, had hung out their washing to dry, and we were obliged to be very careful to avoid getting drops of water down our backs. However, after considerable dodging we succeeded and entered the city by the gate nearest the settlement. This gateway is twenty or thirty feet thick, and affords shelter to various classes of people. A fortune-teller was here in all his glory. He wore spectacles, the glasses of which were about an inch and a half in diameter, while the rims were made of a composition resembling brass. He had a tin-plat before him, with paper ink, pen-brushes, and a few books, and a country bumpkin, to all appearances, was eagerly listening to him. Next to the fortune-teller came vendors of various little nicknacks, the whole value of their stock-in-trade being probably not worth more than a couple of dollars. Close by were hungry folks satisfying the "keen demands of appetite" from a travelling cook-shop the proprietor of which was intent on some comestibles which were being boiled in his soup kettle or frying pan. We passed on and made our way to the south-west gate. The aspect of the town here was very pretty. The wall is built on rising ground, while between us and it the land was laid out in terraces which were covered with snow. The sun was shining brightly, which gave a glimmer to the trees and surroundings. The trees were covered with ice and sparkled like thousands of diamonds in all colours of the rainbow.

The snow here was between two and three feet deep, so we advanced cautiously, as it would have been very unpleasant to tumble into a hole hidden by the drift. Reaching the summit of the wall we made our way along it westward. Outside, the sight was a grand one. Numerous small hillocks, like waves on a troubled sea, covered the ground, so far as the eye could reach, and the mantle of snow was upon them, while at our feet was a lake covered with a thin layer of ice which also sparkled brightly.

We continued our walk till we came abreast of a pagoda outside, and to the north of the city, and close to the river side. We descended by the north gate and made our way to the pagoda; though we several times thought of giving up the attempt owing to the mud, we finally succeeded in reaching the hillock on which it stands and found a portion of the Chinese camp on the ground. We climbed the hill and found the pagoda was a very old one, or else it had suffered considerably from the effects of the weather.

It was a seven-storied pagoda, but there were no means of getting to the top, for all the inside landings and ladders had disappeared, probably through age and dry rot. We retraced our steps and passed over the cemetery on our left. To our right was a native Customs' Station, where they were firing crackers, beating gongs, waving flags, shouting and yelling. We opined that the waving of flags and the shouting intimated to the passing boats, of which there were many under sail, that they had to go and be overhauled before they would be allowed to proceed further. Between the river and the north gate, the Chinese authorities have commenced constructing an iron-cased fort of which there are several of a similar kind at different points along the banks of the Yang-tze. The one we examined was not far advanced, the wooden portion of it only having been put up. Fowling poles appeared to be the timber used—not very strong or reliable, one would think—of course the Chinese should know best what they are about. This fort is, far as I can pierce for four guns: we could not be assured, how many more were to be added, as it had suffered considerably before it was put up.

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It was a seven-storied pagoda, but there were no means of getting to the top, for all the inside land

INSURANCES.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Malacca and Penang.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above mentioned Ports.

NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEES.

JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.  
(FIRE AND LIFE.)

CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against the Risk of FIRE on Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on Coals in Matesheds, on Goods on board Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be received, and transmitted to the Directors for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of proposals or any other information, apply to

ARNHOLD, KAREBERG & CO.

Agents, Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1871.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

MELCHERS & CO.,  
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY.  
(LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premiums contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT & CO.,  
General Agents.

Hongkong, April 17, 1873.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of £45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored therein, at current local rates, subject to a discount of 20% on the Premiums.

NORTON & CO.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, January 1, 1874.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Special Act of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

CAPITAL £2,000,000.

THE Undersigned, Agents at Hongkong, for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against FIRE, to the extent of £10,000 on any one first class risk, or on Merchandise in the same, at the usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20 per cent.

GILMAN & CO.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, July 6, 1875.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE, INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER of His Majesty King George The First, A. D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant Insurances as follows—

Marine Department.

Policies at current rates payable either here, in London, or at the principal Port of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.

Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.

Life Department.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding £5,000 on reasonable terms.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of Instructions from the Board of Directors authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of £10,000 on any one first class risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on adjoining risks at current rates.

A discount of 20% allowed.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, January 6, 1875.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shangha, and Hangchow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, October 1, 1875.

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.  
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA  
OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING  
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamer ALASKA, will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 20th March, 1877, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers, and Freight, for Japan, the United States, and Europe via OVERLAND RAILWAYS.

A Steamer of the Mitsui Bishi S. S. Company will leave Shanghai, via the Inland Sea Ports, about same date, and make close connection at Yokohama.

At New York, Passengers have selection of various lines of Steamers to England, France and Germany.

Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m. 19th March. Parcel Packages will be received at the office until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 16, Praya Central, H. B. RUSSELL & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, February 20, 1877. mc20

Occidental & Oriental Steamship Company.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND  
PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED  
STATES AND EUROPE,  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
CENTRAL  
and  
UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING  
RAILROAD COMPANIES  
AND  
ATLANTIC STREAMERS.

THE S. S. "BELGIC," will be despatched for San Francisco via Yokohama, on MONDAY, the 2nd April, at 3 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers for Japan, the United States and Europe.

Connection is made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai.

Freight will be received on Board until 4 p.m. of the 1st Proximo. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Return Passage Tickets available for 6 months are issued at a reduction of 20 per cent. on regular rates.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 37, Queen's Road Central.

G. B. EMORY, Agent.

Hongkong, March 3, 1877. ap2

Intimations.

EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE  
DE 1878.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE has the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the CONSULATE all Information and Particulars they may require.

For the Consul,  
G. BOULOUZE, Vice-Consul.  
Hongkong, December 18, 1876.

AH YON,  
SHIPS' COMPRADORE AND  
STEVEDORE,  
No. 57, Praya West.

SHIPPING SUPPLIED WITH ALL KINDS OF  
COAL, WATER, BALLAST, FRESH  
PROVISIONS & OILMAN'S  
STORES

Of the best quality and at the shortest notice.

Hongkong, May 1, 1876.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING IN THE  
Chinese Mail.

TWO cents a character for the first 100 characters, and one cent a character beyond the first 100, for first insertion, and half price for repetitions during the first week. Subsequent weeks' insertions will be charged only one half the amount of the first week's charge. Advertisements for half a year and longer will be allowed a deduction of 20% on the total amount, and contracts for more favourable terms can be made.

Efforts have been made to establish Agents for circulating the Chinese Mail in all the ports and in the interior of China, all the ports in Japan, in Saigon, Singapore, Penang, Calcutta, Batavia, Manila, the Philippines, Australia, San Francisco, Pefu and other places which Chinese frequent. When the list of Agencies is completed it will be published. Agents have been already established in most of the above places, and in important ports more than one agent has been appointed at each.

CHUN AYIN,  
Manager.

Hongkong, February 25, 1874.

WASHING BOOKS.

(In English and Chinese.)

WASHINGMAN'S BOOKS, for the use of  
W of Ladies and Gentlemen, are now  
ready at this Office—Price 41 each.

CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

Intimations.

THE HONGKONG CHINESE MAIL.

THE Circulation of THIS PAPER has been very much extended. The following are some of its Agents:

Macao—Man Chuen Shop.

Canton—Sang Chuen Native Post Office,

Len Hing Street; Chui Hing Low Hotel,

Len Hing Street; Kwong Tin Fat Shop, Yan

Tsai Street; Mr. Sui Chuen Fan, Tung Wen

Kwan; Yuen Fong Shop, in front of the

Provincial Treasurer's Yamen; How Yuen

Shop, Small Market Street, New City; Yee

Cheung Photograph Shop, Honam; Kwai

Heung Shop, Sin Chong, Honam.

Swatow—Sui Cheong Hong; Woh Shun

Loong Hong.

Amoy—Chin Cheong Hong, Mook Kok

Street.

Foochow—Mr. Yu Ching Cheong, Foo-

chow Arsenal; Mr. Lum Kwok Ching, Mart-

time Customs.

Shanghai—Mr. Ng Ching Shun, Mar-

itime Customs; Mr. Ho Yue Chuen, Mar-

itime Customs; Mr. Oh Sing Ho, Maes-

Jardine, Matheson & Co.; Mr. Kwong

Chuen Fook, Educational Mission School;

and Mow Sing Kee shop.

Ningpo—Mr. Sung Min Chee, Maritime

Customs.

Henkow—Yee Hing Hong.

Chufu—Yee Shun Hong.

Japan—Mr. Leong Chun Tong, Munici-

pal Office, Yokohama.

Saigon—Wohang Hong.

Singapore—Ting Kee Hong; Kwong

Fong Sang Hong.

Penang—Yow Wing Fong; Argus Office,

Calcutta—Mow Sing Company.

San Francisco—Kwong Fong Tai Hong.

The above are some of the Agencies;

others will be published, when they are

arranged for. Negotiations are in progress

with the express couriers who carry the

official despatches and Peking Gazette, to

circulate the Chinese Mail in the interior

of China.

Hongkong, March 10, 1874.

Now Ready.

THE CHINA REVIEW.

VOL. V, No. 3

Annual Subscription, postage included,

\$6.50.

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